

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

New Lothrop Board of Education

Monday, September 21, 2020

6:00 p.m. in the High School Library & Via Zoom Communications

Board Members Present: Rich White, Greg Ruddy, Adam Green, Jessica Unangst, Jim Eustace, Joseph Henige and Wendy Vincke.

Absent: None

Others Present: Anthony Berthiaume, Kim Kuchar, Drew Severn, 8 in-person visitors and 6 visitors via Zoom.

The meeting was called to order by President Rich White at 6:00 p.m. in the high school library.

Secretary's Report

The secretary's report was read by Adam Green. Motion by Green, supported by Unangst to accept the minutes from the regular board meeting held on August 11, 2020.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Correspondence

Wendy Vincke received a correspondence and followed up with Dr. Berthiaume.

Jessica Unangst was contacted by a cross country parent and referred them to Dr. Berthiaume.

Jim Eustace received a parent communication in regards to cross country and he referred it to Dr. Berthiaume.

Joe Henige received the same correspondence as Jim.

Student Section

Student Council Representatives – Makena Newman and Maddie Eustace were the student council representatives for tonight's meeting.

Presentations/Updates

Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan – Dr. Berthiaume

Dr. Berthiaume reviewed the district's extended COVID-19 learning plan and asked if anyone had any questions on the plan at this time. This plan can be revised at any time and will be reviewed each month by the Board of Education.

Committee Reports

Facilities/Transportation/Extra-Curricular – Greg Ruddy reported the minutes from August 11, 2020 and August 25, 2020.

Visitors

Lisa Williams, stated that she received a message from the school that her children can bring their own devices to school. Lisa also noted that the handbook states the school will not be responsible for any lost, stolen or broken personal items. She stated that her children would not be bringing their own personal devices to school.

Jen Ramey, read a letter from Mary Webster on how great the Virtual Fridays have been for teachers.

Jen Ramey, also spoke and said what a great asset Virtual Fridays have been so far.

Financial Reports

Jessica Unangst read the financial report and presented the following bills for payment: General fund, \$652,682.94; school service, \$5,026.52; for a total of \$657,709.46.

Motion by Green, supported by Henige to approve the payment of bills.

Motion carried, 7-0.

The monthly financial report was read as follows: beginning balance, \$1,031,968.79; receipts, \$1,391,046.36; expenditures: \$657,709.46; for an ending balance of \$1,765,305.69.

Motion by Henige, supported by Vincke to accept the monthly financial report as submitted.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Action Items

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to approve the resignation of Greg Brunner, 8th grade softball coach, effective August 14, 2020.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Vincke to approve the resignation of Leah Joynt, English teacher, effective August 18, 2020.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Henige to approve the resignation of Patti Bisel, bus driver, effective August 19, 2020.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Eustace to approve the resignation of Dana Molands, K-12 Music Education teacher, effective August 28, 2020.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Green to approve the hire of Leandra Birchmeier, part-time food service worker, effective August 24, 2020.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Vincke to approve the hire of Fred Priest, full-time custodian, effective August 26, 2020.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Green, supported by Unangst to approve the hire of Bridget Adkins as the Junior High/High School English teacher at BA Step 0, effective September 2, 2020.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Eustace to approve the hire of Emily Moore, elementary playground/cafe/tertia/latchkey aide, effective September 14, 2020.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Unangst to approve the hire of Morgan Lillie as the K-12 Music Education Teacher at BA Step 0, effective, September 21, 2020.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Eustace supported by Green to approve the hire of Beth Moore, part-time custodian, effective September 21, 2020.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Unangst to approve Megan Roggow as our Preschool Director for the 2020-2021 school year.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Eustace to approve the revised 2020-2021 school year calendar.
Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Vincke to approve the 2020-2021 police coverage agreement with the New Lothrop Village Council, as presented.
Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Henige, supported by Green to approve the high school media center, science and CAD lab furniture bid from School Specialty in the amount of \$82,866.61 to be paid out of the bond.
Motion carried, 7-0.

Motion by Vincke, supported by Ruddy to approve the Online, Dual Enrollment, Independent Study and Seat-Time Waiver Roster for the first semester as presented.
Motion carried, 7-0.

Building/District Updates

Athletics – Drew Severn

Mr. Severn shared that the fall sports are up and rolling and they have been following all the protocols of what's been asked of them. Junior high basketball will start competition next week. The first competitions that took place last week were volleyball and football. Cross country parents have been driving their athletes back and forth to competitions. Mr. Severn stated that he recently talked with Mr. O'Connor about getting a headset cord that will be able to display play-by-play. The Pixolett system was purchased for the elementary gym last month by the Athletic Boosters.

Elementary – Drew Severn

Mr. Severn stated that it's been a process to get things going for the start of the school year, but overall has been good. The beginning of the day has been tweaked a little based on the bus arrival times. The added lunch has been successful. Parent pick-up has been a learning curve, but again everyone is adjusting. Overall, students and staff are glad to be back to school. Mr. Severn stated that he has a meeting this Friday, September 25 to finalize the plan for religion class. Mr. Severn met with DK-6 grade staff to discuss Virtual Fridays and from what was gathered these days are very much needed, according to staff. Mr. Severn mentioned that he is looking to incorporate six minute digital lessons in the classroom for all students in social emotional learning and is hoping to try to roll out this year. Last week on the first virtual Friday, the elementary had around 19 children in attendance at the all-day Latchkey program. Mr. Severn stated that we have approximately 70 virtual students, which is approximately 16% of the elementary student population.

High School – Kim Kuchar

Ms. Kuchar mentioned that on remote learning Fridays her staff will be working on lesson planning, recording videos, doing on campus meets as well as virtual meets and IEP/504s. Ms. Kuchar noted that she lost nine students from last year and gained 11 new students. The high school has 62 virtual students, which is approximately 14% of the student population. The high school had 54 students that did not complete work from last spring when school was shut down. Twenty-four students came in last Friday for a few hours and will continue to come in the next two Fridays to complete that work. Mrs. Cyzmbor met with the seniors today regarding their senior seminar project and setting up a job shadow on a Virtual Friday. October 14 will be PSAT day for all 9-12 graders, 7th and 8th graders will have the day off. Virtual Learners will be notified to return to campus that day for testing. National Honor Society induction will take place on Monday, September 28th on Hornet Field, weather permitting, or will take place in the High School gym. The National Honor Society blood drive is scheduled for November 24. The high school student council have been working on plans for Homecoming week. Finally, Ms. Kuchar gave a couple shout outs to the staff as they have been amazing and also to the students as it's great to see them back on campus.

District – Anthony Berthiaume

Dr. Berthiaume

The district has had other schools contacting us on the system we have set up for Virtual Fridays. Dr. Berthiaume commented that if teachers are successful, then our students will be successful. Our teachers are using this time to communicate with parents and students. Dr. Berthiaume noted that we are hearing positive news on the school budget and once we get final word from the Governor's office

we will look at a budget revision. Negotiations with teachers and the bus drivers will be starting soon. Third round interview for our open Athletic Director position will be taking place this week. We have potentially four bus driver applicants coming in on Wednesday, we will be interviewing before we train them. Dr. Berthiaume stated how important it is for parents to complete the health screening each day for their student(s). Bond videos will be coming out soon.

Motion by Unangst, supported by Green to adjourn.

Motion carried, 7-0.

Adjournment at 7:46 p.m.

The next meeting of the board will be a regular school board meeting on Monday, October 19, 2020 in the High School Library beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Adam Green, Board Secretary